

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 CPR-02
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R 241009Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9951
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 24477

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PINR, PDIP, TH, IT, SW
SUBJ: NEW ITALIAN AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN: BIO SKETCH

1. THAI PRESS REPORTS AUGUST 23 THAT PRESENT ITALIAN
AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND, MARIO PRUNAS, WILL BE LEAVING
THAILAND NEXT MONTH TO TAKE UP HIS NEW POST AS
AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN. ITALIAN EMBOFFS HAD PREVIOUSLY
CONFIRMED THIS ASSIGNMENT TO US. FOLLOWING IS BIO
INFORMATION ON AMBASSADOR PRUNAS.

2. A CAREER DIPLOMAT, MARIO PRUNAS WAS APPOINTED
AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND, WITH CONCURRENT ACCREDITATION TO
LAOS, IN MARCH 1974. HE HAD PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS
MINISTER COUNSELOR IN ANKARA (1969-74) AND AS HEAD OF THE
OFFICE FOR TESTING AND TRAINING IN THE DIRECTORATE
GENERAL FOR PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (1965-69).

3. PRUNAS WAS BORN JANUARY 12, 1919 IN CAGLIARI,
SARDINIA. HE RECEIVED A DEGREE IN LAW FROM THE UNIVERSITY
OF PERUGIA IN 1942 AND ENTERED THE FOREIGN SERVICE IN
1951. AN OFFICIAL IN THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS UNTIL 1953, HE SUBSEQUENTLY SERVED AS
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VICE CONSUL IN TRIPOLI (1954-56), CONSUL IN VIENNA
(1956-58) AND COUNSZLOR IN CY (1959-65).

4. THE AMBW
UADOR AND HIS WIFE ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR
HOSPITALITY AND FRIENDLINESS. A RESERVE AIR FORCE
LIEUTENANT DURING WWII, PRUNAS WAS AWARDED A BRONZE MEDAL

FOR MILITARY VALOR FOR HIS PARTISAN ACTIVITIES DURING
1940-1943. IN 1965 HE WAS MADE A KNIGHT OF THE ORDER
OF MERIT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC. ABRAMOWITZ

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